

Bucks

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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1966

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. A. W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. G. SLOCOMBE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

R. A. CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.S.E.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

W. A. MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
84, WALTON STREET,
AYLESBURY,
BUCKS.

May, 1967

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics of the Aylesbury Rural District for the year 1966.

Apart from a small rise in the percentage of illegitimate births in the District, the statistics do not show any adverse trends. Indeed, there are several encouraging features such as the falls in the Still Birth and Infant Mortality rates and the absence again of any maternal deaths.

On other occasions I have drawn attention to the limitations of the statistics as they are required to be presented in Annual Reports, concerning themselves as they do mainly with births and deaths. It is surely time that some more sensitive instrument was devised to present a picture of the health of population groups between the events of birth and death. Perhaps the advent of the Computer may stimulate a new approach to morbidity statistics.

Of the main groups of diseases causing death, malignant tumours accounted for 19% and degenerative disease of the heart and blood vessels 43%.

FOOD HYGIENE

Periodic inspections of hotels, restaurants and food shops in the District were continued throughout the year. It is not always understood that the function of these visits is not simply to enforce the Food Hygiene Regulations, but also to educate people working in the industry by explaining on the spot why certain safeguards must be applied.

A further Course on food hygiene for people employed in the food industry in the area was held at the Aylesbury College of Further Education.

Food Hygiene (cont'd)....

Since these courses started 72 people have completed courses and 20 have succeeded in passing the examination for the Certificate of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were only 4 new cases of tuberculosis, 2 of which were respiratory, notified during the year. There were two deaths due to tuberculosis, both elderly people.

The County Chest Physician arranges for all family and other contacts of new cases to be followed up, X-rayed and given B.C.G. vaccine if necessary. A full home circumstance report is completed in each case and the patient's family doctor and myself are kept informed of any developments.

School children in the older age groups are skin tested for tuberculosis and where necessary are offered B.C.G. vaccination. Those giving a positive skin reaction (a decreasing number now-a-days) are referred to the Chest Clinic to eliminate the possibility of active tuberculosis.

The tuberculosis rate has been roughly halved over the last ten years and there has been a steady decline in the number of deaths but so long as even a small reservoir of infection remains in the community it will be necessary to continue the present preventive measures.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

No. 1 Unit, Oxford Regional Hospital Board

RICHARD THOMAS AND BALDWIN LTD.,

18.2.66.

WHITCHURCH

Response: 88%

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	86	30	116
No. referred to chest clinic	1	-	1
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	64	17	81
No. not previously examined by M.M.R....	22	13	35
<u>Result of case referred to Chest Clinic</u>			
Bronchitis	1	-	1

/Cont'd....

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

No. 1 Unit, Oxford Regional Hospital Board

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, STONE

16.6.66. - 20.6.66.

SURVEY OF PATIENTS

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	251	292	543
No. requiring further investigation ...	2	3	5
<u>Results of cases requiring further investigation</u>			
Healed pulmonary tuberculosis	1	2	3
Pneumonitis	1	1	2

SURVEY OF STAFF

<u>Summary of Work</u>			
No. of miniature films taken	69	87	156
No. referred to chest clinic	-	-	-
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	54	53	107
No. not previously examined by M.M.R...	15	34	49

CRENDON CONCRETE CO. LTD., LONG CRENDON

23.6.66.

Response: 93%

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	133	16	149
No. referred to chest clinic	1	-	1
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	89	7	96
No. not previously examined by M.M.R...	44	9	53
<u>Result of case referred to Chest Clinic</u>			
Pulmonary fibrosis	1	-	1

H.M. PRISON, SPRING HILL, GRENDON UNDERWOOD

3.10.66.

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	77	18	95
No. referred to chest clinic	-	-	-
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	52	9	61
No. not previously examined by M.M.R...	25	9	34

SUMMARY OF NEWLY DISCOVERED SIGNIFICANT
CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Group</u>	<u>No. Examined</u>	<u>Active P.T.</u>	<u>Inactive P.T.</u>
Staff and dependants	49	-	-
Prisoners	46	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	95	-	-

/Cont'd.....

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

No. 1 Unit, Oxford Regional Hospital Board

BRITISH OIL AND CAKE MILLS, STOKE MANDEVILLE

11.11.66.

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	25	15	40
No. referred to chest clinic	-	-	-
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	14	10	24
No. not previously examined by M.M.R...	11	5	16

OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

There was an outbreak of a mild form of smallpox (variola minor) in the West Midlands and South Wales which started in June. Because of the difficulty which is sometimes experienced in differentiating this disease from chickenpox, general practitioners were asked to let me know of any cases of chickenpox presenting unusual or suspicious features. A few such cases were seen by me, but happily suspicions proved unfounded.

Measles has settled down to a fairly regular two-year epidemic cycle and this was an off-peak year for the District. It is the last of the common infectious diseases to remain uninfluenced by protective inoculations. Although it seldom causes death, it can cause serious illness with complications especially in children under two years of age who may be unhealthy for any other reason. The antibiotic group of drugs may cure complications such as ear and chest infections but their complete avoidance will not be achieved until a satisfactory measles vaccine is available for general immunisation of the child population.

There were 3 isolated cases of infection with the food poisoning organism, Salmonella Typhimurium. In each case a child was infected. They were of particular interest because in two of the cases animals on the premises were proved by laboratory tests to be infected with the same organism.

/Cont'd.....

The first case was on a fairly isolated farm where several sheep were found to be infected. The baby daughter, who was at the crawling stage, was frequently playing on the kitchen floor and by process of elimination the most probable mode of infection was from the boots of someone working on the farm.

In the second case a dog belonging to the household was found to be excreting the organism. Dogs can get the infection by eating infected meat or killing infected rats, and although showing no signs of illness themselves will excrete the organism for a limited period.

No animal connection could be proved in the third case although rectal swabs were taken from the cat which was alleged to have been carrying dead mice into the house.

Diseases acquired from pet animals

I think it is worth writing on this subject because over the years there have been a number of cases, some serious, of diseases acquired from domestic pets. It is often difficult to prove bacteriologically the exact mode of transmission of these diseases, but there is no doubt that they can be and are transmitted to humans. A list of them would serve no useful purpose here, but some remarks about precautions which should be taken to avoid risk of infection are well worth recording.

All sick animals should be seen by a veterinary surgeon, and discharges and excretions should be treated as possibly infectious. The same applies to any skin ailment. Hands should be carefully washed after handling a sick animal.

Puppies and kittens should be "wormed" when about one month old, and again at six months. The mother herself should also be "wormed" during the time she is feeding.

/Cont'd.....

Never allow food to remain unprotected from animals. Raw meat intended for animals should be kept well away from food for human consumption. It is unwise to buy raw meat for pets which has been declared unfit for human consumption, because it may be infected with food poisoning germs which, although harmless to the animal, may be excreted by it. If you are going to prepare food after handling a pet, wash your hands.

Do not allow animal excreta to remain where young children play, and protect sandpits in particular.

An increasing number of exotic animals, such as monkeys and birds, are being imported as pets. It would be sensible to consult a veterinary surgeon before acquiring any of these.

Lastly, there is no point in having a pet unless you are prepared to see that it is kept fit and well. A neglected animal is often an unhealthy animal.

I would like to thank you again for your interest and support and to acknowledge the willing help received from the staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a)	Area of the District	89,307 acres.
(b)	Total Population (estimated mid-1966) ...	36,150
(c)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1966) according to Rate Book	10,420
(d)	Rateable Value	£1,194,423
(e)	Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£4,870.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

	<u>1965</u>			<u>1966</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate	582	299	283	558	294	264
Illegitimate	35	17	18	37	19	18
Live birth rate per 1,000 population		17.2			16.5	
Birth rate (corrected)		17.71			16.99	
Birth rate for England & Wales		18.1			17.7	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births...		5.67			6.22	
<u>Still Births</u>						
Number	5	1	4	3	1	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		8.04			5.02	
Total live and still births	622	317	305	598	314	284

D E A T H S

<u>1965</u>			<u>1966</u>		
<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
385	204	181	379	200	179
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			10.8	10.5	
Standardised Death Rate			10.15	10.2	
Death Rate for England and Wales			11.5	11.7	
<u>1965</u>			<u>1966</u>		
<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Infant Deaths</u>					
Number	9	7	2	7	6
<u>Infant mortality rates:</u>					
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births		14.6		11.8	
- do - Legitimate		15.46		10.75	
- do - Illegitimate		-		27.0	
Infant mortality rate for England and Wales		19.0		19.0	
<u>Neo-Natal mortality rate:</u>					
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)					
Number	8	6	2	6	6
Rate		13.0		10.1	

Infant Deaths (Cont'd).....

	<u>1965</u>			<u>1966</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Early Neo-Natal mortality:</u>						
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	7	5	2	6	6	-
Rate		11.34			10.1	

Perinatal mortality:

(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)

Number	12	6	6	9	7	2
Rate		19.3			15.0	

Maternal mortality:

Number	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rate		-			-	

DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages) 72

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

<u>Disease</u>	<u>1966</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-	2
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	2	-	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	-	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	22	25	47
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	2	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	19	34
Coronary disease, angina	42	30	72
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
Other heart disease	10	16	26
Other circulatory disease	13	15	28
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	11	15	26
Bronchitis	19	10	29
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	3	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	3	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	16	33
Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8
All other accidents	7	5	12
Suicide	2	2	4
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	200	179	379

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES:

	<u>1965</u>		<u>1966</u>	
	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	555	-	166	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	8	-
Pneumonia	2	36	1	26
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	80	-	11	-
Para-Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	3	-
	<hr/> 646 <hr/>	<hr/> 36 <hr/>	<hr/> 189 <hr/>	<hr/> 26 <hr/>

T U B E R C U L O S I S

1 9 6 6

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 +	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

The Hospitals serving the District are the Royal Bucks, Tindal General and Stoke Mandeville. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital which is attached to Stoke Mandeville Hospital and the Grove Hospital, Linslade is available for the admission of cases of smallpox at short notice.

Accident cases are taken to the Accident Department at the Royal Bucks Hospital.

These hospitals are administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville.

Routine samples of milk, water and other specimens requiring bacteriological examination were sent to this laboratory throughout the year. Reports were received with the minimum of delay, and the help and advice given by the Medical Director were much appreciated.

Ambulance Services

These are provided by the Bucks County Council, and are under the direction of the County Medical Officer. Eleven ambulances and five dual purpose vehicles were available at the Ambulance Headquarters, Buckingham Road, for use in the Borough and surrounding Districts. There is two-way radio link between all vehicles and Headquarters. The majority of long distance journeys are carried out by train, stretcher cases being accommodated in reserved compartments.

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisation, and Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Services Act, 1946, administer these services.

Treatment of Venereal Disease

A venereal disease clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

Child Welfare Centres:

<u>Fixed Centres:</u>	<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Doctor attends</u>
Aston Clinton	1st & 3rd Friday	3rd Friday
Brill	3rd Friday	-
Grendon Underwood	2nd Monday	Each session
Haddenham	2nd & 4th Thursday	-
Halton R.A.F. (Voluntary)	2nd & 4th Thursday	-
Long Crendon	2nd & 4th Thursday	2nd Thursday
Quainton	1st Tuesday	Each Session
Stone	4th Tuesday	Each Session
Waddesdon	2nd Friday	-
Wendover	Each Monday	Each Session
Weston Turville	3rd Thursday	Each Session
Whitchurch	4th Friday	Each Session

Mobile Child Welfare Centre:

Westcott	}	1st Monday	Ickford	}	4th Thursday
Upper Winchendon			Worminghall		
Lower Winchendon			Oakley		
Cuddington					

Bierton - 1st Tuesday (morning)

Attendance during 1966

Total attendances at Child Welfare Centres	5,785
Total attendances at Mobile Child Welfare Centres	701
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	<u>6,486</u>

As will be seen, there was a total of 6,486 attendances at these Clinics. Besides advice on the health of infants and toddlers given to individual mothers, there were talks on a variety of health subjects for groups at the Clinics. Courses of immunisation against smallpox, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus were available or could be given by the family doctor. Almost all parents who attended the Clinics were anxious that their children should have the maximum immunity against these diseases, but there was still a minority of the population who failed to take this advantage.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Number of</u>		
		<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	52	8	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)....	36	2	-	-
Total	96	12	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found: NONE

PART VIII

(Sections 133 and 134)

OUTWORK

There are 12 outworkers registered in the District, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. The premises in which the work is carried out have been inspected and found to be satisfactory in accordance with conditions laid down in the Act.

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

R. A. CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.S.E.
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.
BUILDING SURVEYOR.
DEPUTY -
W. A. MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.
TELEPHONE: AYLESBURY 4211 (THREE LINES).

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
84, WALTON STREET,
AYLESBURY,
BUCKS.

May, 1967.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

I have the honour to report on the work of the Inspectors' branch of the Department for 1966.

There is no doubt that the outstanding activity during the year has been the introduction of the sack system of refuse collection. This development will, I am sure, prove to be of great benefit generally and anticipate a national trend and improvement in this important field of Public Health work.

Although there has been preparatory work on sewage disposal schemes, the year has not been notable for new works being commenced. A number of land drainage and flooding problems occurred, necessitating much detailed investigation. This type of activity may well increase in the future.

The normal routine activities continue, naturally increasing each year as the District develops, and I express my gratitude to the staff of the Department for their careful attention to these and the various special items which arise. I would also say how much I appreciate once again, the courtesy and assistance extended by the Chairman and members of the Committee throughout the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection:

Following the decision of the Council to introduce the disposable sack method of refuse collection in 1966, galvanised metal stands were obtained and issued throughout the district during the autumn.

After trials of various types of sacks it was decided to use polythene refuse bags and these are in general use. By

/Cont'd

November all households were afforded a weekly collection from the premises, clean sacks being left in return for full or partially full ones removed.

At the same time arrangements were made to withdraw dustbins previously issued on hire by the Council. Householders were given the choice of retaining such bins on valuation according to age of the bin.

The issue of sack holders and withdrawal of bins necessitated the employment of casual labour to distribute leaflets advising householders of the new arrangement. It was also necessary to hire transport for distribution of sack holders and collection of dustbins as the Council's vehicles were fully employed maintaining the weekly refuse collection.

The new system has been generally well received by the public; there have inevitably been some complaints, mainly regarding damage to sacks by animals or hot ashes, but these have been relatively few in number and contact with the public during a subsequent work study programme has shown that most householders are pleased with the cleanliness of the system and appreciate that it enables this improved service to be given without additional labour costs.

The demand for extra sacks creates rather a problem. Although the majority of householders find that one sack per week is quite adequate, some larger households genuinely need two but there is a steady demand from a minority for three or four sacks weekly. If this demand increases it must affect cost, not only of purchase of sacks but of collection. Instructions were issued for sacks to be replaced strictly according to **the number used** at each property during the preceding week.

The Council was already in possession of a report by Works Management Consultants who anticipated that the introduction of an incentive bonus ~~scheme~~ based on work study would result in a reduced labour force and a saving in wages to the Council, at the same time the refuse collectors could earn bonus at a minimum rate of £4 per week. It was decided to commence work study in November when the issue of disposable refuse sacks was general throughout the district.

/cont'd ...

From the end of August Mr. Mulley was fully employed in the preparation of a census of collecting points which were enumerated and distanced individually and built up into route sheets giving information on vehicle movement ready for the application of time values. In November the work study team started work, it consisted of Mr. J. Darley, Resident Consultant of P.A. Management, Mr. D. Mulley, Council Representative, and Mr. E. Small, Workers' Representative. By the end of the year training had been carried out, numerous and varied work studies made and time standards established for all elements of refuse collection. It was then anticipated that route planning would be completed and the incentive bonus scheme be introduced in mid-January subject to consent within the Government's policy of wage restriction.

I would like to stress that the two schemes, i.e. disposable sack collection and incentive bonus working, are basically separate. The sacks make the work of collectors lighter and cleaner but their principal object is to give an improved service to householders by elimination of the "skep" method of collection in which the collector emptied each bin into a skep on the premises. To otherwise eliminate this system it would be necessary for the collector to carry each full bin to the lorry and to return it empty to the house and it is only fair to offset a high proportion of the cost of sack holders and sacks against the cost of such double journeys to every premises. I am satisfied that had this alternative been used the cost of additional labour and vehicle delay would have been comparable with the cost of sack holders and sacks without the advantage of a clean container to each householder every week.

The work studies were carried out on a disposable sack system already in operation and although advantage was taken of this scheme and of new route planning the gains also arise from productivity and acceptance of new methods by the refuse collectors in return for a substantial bonus.

Salvage:

Income from sale of waste paper amounted to £624 18s. 9d. This is a reduction on last year due to lack of labour. Replacements for men leaving during the year were not sought because of the anticipated reduction in the labour force resulting from the introduction of refuse sacks and the work study programme. Salvage work had therefore to be curtailed in order that refuse collection could be maintained.

Disposal

The site at Hartwell Old Brickyard continues to deal with almost all the refuse collected, although an auxillary tip at Kingswood is also used. The site is maintained by one man operating an International Drott machine.

Negotiations are in hand for extending the tip at Hartwell which will prove most valuable. It is clear however that plans for the future must very soon be considered as the Hartwell Tip fills with increasing rapidity. The volume of refuse which now even includes furniture, will almost certainly mean incineration as the future method of disposal.

Street Cleansing

This work was undertaken in the Parish of Wendover during the year but labour difficulties were encountered after a few months.

Cesspool emptying

Two vehicles are engaged full-time and one part-time on this work, and for some time to come there is not likely to be a reduction in this work but rather a slight increase necessitating the full-time operation of all three vehicles. The use of conversion grants has helped to further reduce the number of pail closets which were down to 231 at the end of the year.

A limited amount of special work was undertaken, the accounts for which totalled £121 11s. 0d.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The new scheme and disposal works for Cuddington was completed and brought into operation during the year.

The proposed new Sewage Disposal Works for Haddenham and Kingsey received Planning Permission in November but Ministry approval has still to be obtained.

A preliminary report was received on new Disposal Plant for Ickford and Worminghall and it was decided to investigate a new site altogether.

A report on the sewerage of Broughton was received and it was decided in September to adopt the scheme. Tenders were received during the year for a new Pumping Station and sewer extension at Rowsham Road, Bierton and work was commenced in December.

A report on a new scheme for Chearsley was adopted in September.

There was no material progress to report in respect of the proposals for Oving, Ashendon and Dorton and the extension to Works at Stone and Waddesdon.

In the case of Ludgershall, one difficulty was removed by the receipt of notification from the National Farmers' Union that the farmers in that village would make their own arrangements for the disposal of farm waste.

Complaints were received concerning nuisance from Oakley Sewage Disposal Site. This is not surprising since development has been permitted up to 100 yards from the site. The linking of this system with Ickford and Worminghall will be investigated when the new site for those villages is under consideration.

Towards the end of the year a Supervisor was appointed to control maintenance on the various Sewage Disposal Sites and sewerage systems and the formation of the sewer maintenance team recommended last year was imminent. The latter had been deliberately delayed to await the redeployment of the Council's labour force.

LAND DRAINAGE

Investigations and surveys to remedy or alleviate flood conditions in various parts of the district have been carried out.

At Westcott a new surface water sewer was laid to overcome flooding at Lower Green. Surveys were made in the Broughton - Stocklake area and improvements effected with the co-operation of occupiers of land. Towards the end of the year efforts were being made to improve very bad conditions at Quarrendon where the highway had remained flooded for several weeks.

Quite serious flooding, involving overflow of the sewerage system, was experienced at Ickford. This is essentially a land drainage problem, however, and in addition to surveying the area, negotiations were in hand with the Thames Conservancy and officers of the Ministry of Agriculture in an effort to find a solution to the trouble.

H O U S I N G

Improvement Grants:

The number of applications showed a decrease compared with last year, viz. from 79 to 59. Approvals were given to 33 Discretionary and 26 Standard Grants, totalling in value £16,245.

This reduction is most regrettable for these schemes result in very worthwhile renovations, accomplishing far more than can possibly be done by formal Housing notices. It may be that financial restrictions are responsible and that the set-back will only be temporary.

The total figures since the introduction of grants up to 31st December, 1966 are as follows:-

Discretionary Grants:

No. of Grants on Council property	..	..	3
No. of private properties covered			
by applications received.	..	..	<u>667</u>
No. approved	..	..	601
No. refused	..	..	50
No. withdrawn after approval	..	..	<u>16</u>
			<u>677</u>

/cont'd

Discretionary Grants continued.

No. withdrawn after approval 53
Total amount of Grants paid (excluding withdrawals)
= £158,650. 7s. 9d.

Standard Grants:

Total number of applications received .. 302.

Repairs and Demolition:

45 properties were repaired as a result of formal and informal action.

20 properties were represented as incapable of repair at reasonable expense and the appropriate notices were issued. As a result of these and earlier representations, 11 Demolition Orders and 3 Closing Orders were made, and 5 Undertakings to repair were accepted.

2 Demolition Orders and 4 Closing Orders were cancelled after satisfactory completion of reconditioning works.

15 properties were demolished.

LOCAL LAND CHARGES

Information concerning notices served is supplied when official search of the Land Charges Register is applied for. This information relates not only to Housing and Public Health Act notices but also Planning Permission conditions. 1,023 were dealt with during the year.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

A new Public Conveniences was completed and opened at Long Crendon. This is the second in the District and may well be followed by others in the near future. The maintenance of these premises is always a problem but after some initial incidents at Long Crendon I am pleased to say that only routine cleaning and general maintenance has been required.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a statistical summary of work under this Act during the year:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of Registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	1	35	9
Retail Shops	6	98	47
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	4	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens		21	9
Fuel storage depots		-	-
Total:	7	158	65

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT

185

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	No. of Contraventions found		Section	No. of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	2	13	Sitting facilities	1
5	Overcrowding	-	14	Seats (Sedentary workers)	-
6	Temperature	12	15	Eating facilities	-
7	Ventilation	1	16	Floors, passage and stairs	2
8	Lighting	-	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	3
9	Sanitary conveniences	1	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
10	Washing facilities	1	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
11	Supply of drinking water	1	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
12	Clothing accommodation	-	24	First Aid General provisions	22
			TOTAL 46		

FOOD INSPECTION

Only one slaughter house now operates within the district. There is, however, a cold store which periodically receives carcasses affected with cysticercus bovis for retention and subsequent release after clearance by your officers. One poultry killing establishment also operates in the District.

In addition to these premises, routine visits are made to food shops, catering establishments, hotels, etc. No formal action was necessary during the year.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	65
No. of carcasses inspected	201
Weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses	148 lbs.
" " " " " wholesale premises	82 lbs..
" " " " " retail premises	202 lbs.
Weight of fish condemned	91 lbs.
" " other foods condemned	112 lbs.

Five additional premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream, and one for preparation and manufacture of preserved foods.

WATER SUPPLY

Owing to the effective coverage of the District by the Bucks Water Board mains, problems relating to water supplies only arise occasionally. Assistance was sought and given in meeting a deficiency payment required for a main extension to an isolated property.

PEST DESTRUCTION

This work is carried out by one operator who during the year made a total of 1248 visits. Late in the year he also assisted the neighbouring districts of Winslow and Wing R.D.C.s. in dealing with urgent cases when their operator was ill.

A number of contracts are operated by the Council in respect of business premises, mainly farms.

In addition to routine visits, etc., to refuse tips and sewage works, periodical test baiting and treatment of sewers is undertaken in conjunction with officers of the Regional Pest Destruction Department.

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Various forms of infestation are dealt with in addition to rats and mice, although this is not a statutory duty. Wasps give rise to numerous requests for assistance and there are quite a number of cases of "cluster fly" infestation and these unfortunately recur every year in spite of all efforts to eradicate them.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

8 existing Licences were renewed for the year, there being extensions of premises in one case.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One Licence was applied for and issued under the above Act during the year.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

95 Licences to store petroleum spirit were in force at the end of the year.

Proceedings had to be taken in one instance for failure to renew a storage licence. A fine of £1 was imposed with £4 8s. 0d costs.

The conditions for storing petrol are now largely standardised but new developments relating to the sale of petrol are giving rise to some problems.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

8 Registrations remained effective with this Authority, there being one added during 1966.

STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING

In addition to the naming of individual new streets throughout the district, formal naming and numbering was adopted and implemented in the Parishes of Brill, Oakley, Ickford and Worminghall. Formal street naming was also adopted for the Parish of Chearsley.

NEW BUILDINGS

The number of plans submitted during the year totalled 765.

These are summarised as follows:-

Building Byelaws - Town and Country Planning Act

Dwelling Houses

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90 for 140 houses
Layout plans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 for 50 houses
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	180
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Alterations and Additions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	181
Change of use	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29

Industrial

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Alterations and Additions to Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Change of use	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Miscellaneous

Agricultural Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Private Garages	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	137
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 for 13 caravans
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Applications cancelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16

Number of Dwellings completed

Private	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	117
Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
								<u>177</u>

Decisions on 15 Planning Appeals were received, all of which were dismissed.

Three prosecutions were taken during the year under Section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 for use of land as caravan sites without site without site licences. In two cases fines were imposed and in the third although the defendant was found guilty, no fine was imposed.

Also during the year three notices were served under Section 65 of the Public Health Act, 1936 requiring the removal of buildings which had been erected in contravention of the Building Byelaws or Building Regulations. Two of these notices had been complied with at the end of the year and action was still proceeding in the other case.

The new Building Regulations, which came into operation on

117
1st February, led to a considerable increase in the work of the Department, particularly during the first few months of operation when architects and builders had not become conversant with the interpretation of the Regulations.

A number of meetings were held with officers of other local authorities in the County to discuss general and specific interpretation of the Regulations and difficulties encountered in administration, and to provide as far as possible a consistent interpretation in the district and county. With this end in view a standard set of application forms and notices were brought into use in the County and joint arrangements made for local printing, showing a considerable saving to each authority.

During the year, three applications for relaxation of specific regulations were granted.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

One instrument is operated in the district in connection with the National Survey of Air Pollution. The readings obtained are supplied to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

A few applications for approval of new furnace installations were received, also in respect of new chimneys with regard to height.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2241
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86
Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Conversion Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Dangerous Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Ditches	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	716
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	705
Animal Boarding Establishments and Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Agricultural (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Food Premises and Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	253
Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	345
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	499
Infestation and Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Levelling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	343
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	271
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	158
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	184
Petroleum Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	142
Public Health	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	145
Refuse Collection and Scavenging	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	290
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1263
Sewage Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	247
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	949
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
Street Naming and Numbering	183
Trade Effluents	18
Verminous Premises	16
Water Supply	49

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The only staff changes in the Department during the year, were the appointment of Mr. A. J. Bithrey who took up his duties as Public Health Inspector and Building Inspector in February to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. G. E. Thomson towards the end of 1965, and the transfer of Mrs. M. Willoughby from the Finance Department as Typist

Your obedient Servant,

R. A. CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.S.E.

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Building Surveyor.

